Claims:

1. A method for treating Parkinson's disease, comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of at least one PPARγ agonist to a subject.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein said PPARγ agonist is selected from thiazolidinedione and thiazolidinedione derivatives.

3. The method of claim 2, wherein said thiazololidinedione derivatives are selected from troglitazone, ciglitazone, pioglitazone, rosiglitazone, englitazone, GW7845 and farglitazone.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein said PPARγ agonist is selected from indole-derived compounds, indole 5-carboxylic acid derivatives, and 2,3-disubstituted indole 5-phenylacetic acid derivatives.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein said PPARγ agonist is an L-tyrosine-derived compound.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein said subject is selected from subjects identified as being susceptible to Parkinson's disease and subjects suffering from Parkinson's disease.

7. The method of claim 2, wherein said therapeutically effective amount of said thiazolidinedione and thiazolidinedione derivatives is between 0.1 mg to 100 mg.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein said agonist is administered orally.

9. A method of reducing the activation of microglial cells in the substantia nigra pars compacta of a subject, comprising administering to said subject a therapeutically effective amount of at least one PPARγ agonist.